

REMARKS

Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 17-21, 23, 25-28, 30, and 32-34 are pending in the present application. Claims 17, 27, 31, and 33 are the independent claims.

Claims 1-16, 22, 24, 29, 31, 35, and 36 have been cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Claims 17, 23, 25, 27, 30, 32, and 33 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication that claims 24, 27, 31, and 33 recite patentable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the features of their base claim and any intervening claims. By the present Amendment, Applicant has cancelled claims 24 and 31, amended independent claim 17 to recite the features of claims 24 and 31, and rewritten claims 27 and 33 in independent form to include all of the features of their base claim and all intervening claims. Claims 18-23, 25, 26, 28-30, 32, and 34 depend either directly or indirectly from claims 17, 27, and 33. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 17-23, 25-30, and 32-34 are now in allowable form.

The Office Action objected to the Abstract for exceeding 150 words. By the present Amendment, Applicant has amended the Abstract to include less than 150 words.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objected to the disclosure for various informalities. By the present Amendment, Applicant has amended paragraphs [0003] and [0015] of the Specification in the manner kindly suggested by the Examiner.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objected to the drawings for failing to show a zener diode. By separate paper filed concurrently herewith, Applicant has submitted a new drawing sheet showing the zener diode.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 28 and 34 stand rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, as indefinite. Specifically, it is alleged that the recited developing power transforming unit is described in the Specification as being "one form of the developing power supply unit". (Office

Action, page 4). Thus, these claims are indefinite because they recite a feature corresponding to a previously recited element. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Paragraph [0015] of the Specification, cited by the Office Action, describes the developing power transforming unit as being included in the developing power supply. (Emphasis added). Nowhere in paragraph [0015] is the developing power transforming unit described as being "one form" of a developing power supply unit. Thus, the subject recitations in claims 28 and 34, which further define an element recited in independent claim 17, are proper.

Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 28 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 are respectfully requested.

Claims 17, 22, 23, 29, and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 2002-148888 (Ono et al.). Claims 17, 22, 23, 25, 26, 29, 30, and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 2000-162880 (Shimazu et al.). Claims 17-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,421,521 (Tanaka) in view of JP 2002-148888 (Ono et al.).

It is respectfully submitted that all of the art rejections are respectfully traversed for the reasons set forth above, --namely the inclusion of allowable subject matter in each of the independent claims.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claims patentably define the present invention over the citations of record. Further, the dependent claims should also be allowable for the same reasons as their respective base claims and further due to the additional features that they recite. Separate and individual consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Applicant believes that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action. However, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to such matters.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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